

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1691

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG
SUBJECT: CSCE POLICY: INFORMATION-WORKING CONDITIONS FOR
JOURNALISTS

REF: A) GENEVA 1557; B) GENEVA 1391; C) GENEVA 569

1. AFTER TWO WEEKS OF INFORMAL TALKS, AN INFORMAL
AGREEMENT SEEMS POSSIBLE ON FOURTH PARA (TEXT BELOW) IN SUBJECT
PAPER. SOVIETS AND OTHERS ARE PRESSING FOR ITS MENTAL
REGISTRATION ON FRIDAY, MARCH 14. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO
CONCUR.

2. THE PARA DEALS WITH PERMITS FOR RESIDENCE AND "OTHER
OFFICIAL PAPERS". THAT PHRASE IS AMBIGIOUS REFERENCE TO
VARIOUS KINDS OF PERMITS AND AUTHORIZATIONS JOURNALISTS NEED
TO EXERCISE THEIR PROFESSION. SOVIETS INSIST THAT ANY
LANGUAGE RELATING TO TIMELY ISSUANCE OF ALL SUCH PERMITS
MUST BE AMBIGIOUS IN CAST AND NOT REPEAT NOT EXPLICIT. THE
TIMING FACTOR (REF A PARA 2 A), ON WHICH SOVIETS ARE VERY
SENSITIVE, SLIDES IN ON THE "AND WHEN THESE ARE NECESSARY"
PHRASE. TEXT PRESENTLY IN PLAY READS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE:
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--"FACILITATE THE ISSUE TO ACCREDITED JOURNALISTS OF THE PARTICIPATING STATES OF PERMITS FOR STAY IN THEIR COUNTRY OF TEMPORARY RESIDENCE, AND IF AND WHEN THESE ARE NECESSARY, OF OTHER OFFICIAL PAPERS WHICH IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THEM TO HAVE." END QUOTE

3. THE SOVIETS' ADAMANT RESISTANCE TO ANY "AUTOMATICITY", ESPECIALLY AS APPLIED TO TIMELY RESPONSE ON "OTHER PAPERS", HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPLE DIFFICULTY IN THE DISCUSSIONS. IN THE TWO WEEK PERIOD MANY FORMULATIONS WERE ATTEMPTED. THE FINAL ONES WERE:

- (A) AFTER "OFFICIAL PAPERS" IN ABOVE TEXT, SOVIETS WANTED "REQUIRED OF THEM";
- (B) WESTERN PREFERENCE WAS "REQUIRED OF THEM FOR THE EXERCISE OF THEIR PROFESSION";
- (C) SWISS TEXT (REFTEL C), WHICH READS "FACILITATE THE OBTAINING OF OTHER PERMITS, IF THIS IS NECESSARY, FOR SOJOURN IN THE COUNTRY OF TEMPORARY RESIDENCE AND THE PURSUIT OF JOURNALISTIC ACTIVITIES"--I.E. NO BROAD ALLUSION TO EXERCISE OF THEIR PROFESSION.

4. SOVIETS WOULD ACCEPT "AND WHEN" IN FIRST LINE OF SWISS TEXT TO COVER TIME FACTOR, BUT WOULD NOT CHANGE "IF AND WHEN THIS IS NECESSARY" TO "IF AND WHEN THESE ARE NECESSARY"--THE BROADER REFERENCE TO ALL PERMITS ETC NEEDED FOR EXERCISE OF JOURNALISTIC PROFESSION. SOVIETS ALSO SAID "IF AND WHEN THIS IS NECESSARY" REFERRED ONLY TO "FACILITATE", AND NOT "PERMITS", AND WAS THEREFORE NOT EVEN A CONDITIONAL COMMITMENT IN THEIR VIEW TO MAKE A POSITIVE OR TIMELY RESPONSE TO REQUESTS. FACED WITH ABOVE SITUATION, WE WORKED OUT COMPROMISE TEXT IN PARA 2 AND REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO MENTALLY REGISTER IT. DALE

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